

Wendell Phillips

Dublin September 1. 1846

My dear Friend

I have just been reading the speeches of Garrison and Douglass at Bristol. They were of course very good. From what I can learn D. was very eloquent every where there here. We had comparatively poor audiences there. ~~He~~ had no ex-
cusement to stir him up - no opposition worth tally
of - no threatening crowds - no great rich people to
pique him to effort. His Bristol speech is admirable
and he is a fine fellow. It would be a thousand pities
that he should go astray - and I think he has not
enough to know the side that is best, and must be
ditable to himself. He speaks darkly in London
too. He must go on right. I ~~take~~ ^{take} back nothing I
have said of his defects on the main points I can
pardon if - but I admire and value him so much
for the cause sake that I could bitterly regret if
any thing occurred to mar his usefulness. I am
happy to tell you that old Mr. Estlin is greatly delighted.
I had a letter from him yesterday. He says "Mr. Garrison
was at my house, and Duncan at Mr. Edw. Thomas's. I
have had a busy week in bringing together people who
would be useful by his visit & in making such arrange-
ments as would ensure respectable staying meetings."

What is Henry Ireland - I have a note for us and don't know where to find him - I think it was to send a stand and to Mrs. Woolley, Upper Beaufort. Mary Chertie, you would do well. I had a long talk with her. She was a good leaflet, and did find some. This is a fine woman and I would let her do it.

Ms. A.9.2.22.85

Hitherto we have gone on most satisfactorily. My daughter,
myself, and friends have been greatly interested in the
fabrics, and we hope he has not been disappointed
with his visit. Douglass has been much admired. His
speeches exceeded my expectations. I had a party
of 60 to meet Garrison and Douglass on Tuesday, besides
many others on Monday evening, and at breakfast
on Tuesday. They are fine as to Edwards, but Mr.
Garrison ~~was~~ to return tomorrow to Bristol (from
where little went) and I accompany him to Bath to
see Mr. Abdy. Douglass means to speak at Taunton
& Bridgwater, and again at Bristol. Nothing could
have turned out better than our meeting at the
Victoria Rooms - which is a fashionable place.
We shall have an amusing to the League some
strong Resolutions, which I hope will be Antislavery
enough even for you and Mr. Mayhew."

Have you ever heard of Joseph Barker of Leeds
and formerly of Newcastle? He is a very remarkable
man. In his early days owing to his father's mis-
fortune in business he was "beefsteak, half starved
& beggar." He had a strong will & high aspirations. He
improved his mind & became a Methodist preacher.
He rebelled against the ecclesiastical tyranny
and cut the connexion. He then set up as an independent
Gospel Reformer - a collector of practical virtues
than of doctrine - a preacher of practical righteousness &

apostolical simplicity. He gained ~~many~~ adherents
particularly among the poor - and many of the
Methodist chapels were emptied of their occupants
who thronged to hear him. Elizabeth Pease was a
great friend of his - and she supplied him liberally
with the means of promoting his views. At length he
saw farther (or thought he did) - and turned heterodox
and theobolite and all his orthodox friends left him.
Now he is taken by the hand by the Unitarians - at
least by a great many of them, for he preaches some of
them. This is a sort of Unitarian Theodore Parker. He
is fearless, uncompromising, an enemy to all pre-
tence, obscurity, & weakness. He is a fair fellow.
He has a broad Yorkshire accent, and is a first
rate Plain Speaker. He enters an immensely and
preaches an immensely. He is a staunch Abolition-
ist and Peace man. He is Anti Slavery too but
did not know much about it. At least I think he
does not, compared with what he has learned from
me, ~~within~~ the last 3 days which he has spent with
me. He returned home to day. I spent the time
in cravering him, & I flatter myself he has given
him a staunch abhorrence of the Famine Stamp
Beside he is a preacher & a writer, he is a printer, and he
has got a staunch friend to help him to persevere to his death.

4) It was lately presented to him by a public subscription
the scheme of payment for his preaching. And he
prints in order to promulgate books for the people and
whatsoever he makes is spent in praiseworthy manner. He is against
accumulation for selfish aggrandizement and thinks
that money reaching for the promotion of children in
the world is unto Christ. His character I believe
to be irreproachable and yet he is dreadfully labelled
and abused by the enraged priests that he opposes
and exposes. He has a horror of the clergy partisans
of the Methodists, of whom he knows most.
I anticipate great things from his activities. He
is most anxious to see Garrison & I know Garrison
wants to see him. I wrote to J. today earnestly
entreaty him to make a point to call upon Rush
for I don't know a man in England whom it
would be more important to enlist heartily in
the cause. He has great influence in the land
of England among the poorer classes & is highly
thought of by a majority of the Unitarians every
where. Garrison thought him ~~very~~
~~was~~ yesterday for the first time, & very kind &
we had a fine evening. Oh I love Chapman, for
Haughton is a fool, as transparent and as
poor as a dew drop tho' not so evanescent.

I was anxious to take you of Joseph Ruckey for one
pence. I think him quite a prize. I asked
him to write for the book - I think he will. He is
one who can write freely & fast. He has a homely,
heart, Coburn like simplicity & force of style.

On my return from London, I rec'd the Liberator
containing the account of Garrison's Meeting with the
Colored Deputation & liked it so much that I printed
some copies. I have been carefully scattering them
everywhere where the Garrison was likely to be in order
to show that a man like him. I think ^{it is a good} way of
maintaining an Anti Slavery interest in people's minds
is by exhibiting their sympathies on behalf of its more
distinguished advocates - to spread up Garrison
right and left. He seems to be talked of for he is not
made a fool of, & I was rejoiced when in London to
find how sensible he is that celebrity is in itself
rediculously local, sectarian, & party bounded,
limited. The great use of this home is not known
nor heard of by my next door neighbors. There
are workers for a cause better for a silly shadow. I
know that Garrison is not one of these. If I thought
he was, I could not have loved him as I do. He
seems to be ~~unlimited~~, & I think he might be deemed
a truly great man ^{even} by his ^{own} outlet. I mean
with his brother - great within limited limits.

on the 4th following, Thompson & Douglas meant to
lecture in Birmingham and I think they look
to spending the 6th at Ambleside with Harriet
Martineau and then going to Scotland. It is
times they should. Considering that they lecture un-
witting farmers he gets hardly for their full measure
I hope he will make a fine stir in Scotland. As
any rats his visit into the food - they I am sure of.
I rely pretty upon the Unitarians - the priest &
most energetic minds in among them - they are
not afraid but every breath of wind will overthrow
them down.

Will you oblige me by sending the name of
Miss Fair, Quaker Street School, Dublin - and of
Miss Moore, Quay, Waterford, for the Standard
and for the Liberator.

Joseph Barker, Wortley, near Leeds, England. He
will take 2 copies of the Liberator and also 1 of
the Standard.

Perhaps you would direct his 2 Lib. to be
put under 1 cover. It may save some postage.

In my card to Quincy I gave the name of the
Rev. Dr. Hutton, London. ~~He should be~~ for the Liberator.
It should be Rev. Dr. Hutton, 5, Hamilton Place, Kings Cross,
London

Mass Moore is a cousin of my own, whom I have
pressed into the service in Waterford. Maria Waring
lives in Waterford too, but is not so universally known,
and I think very certain like the dignity of being a
niece for the Rev. Mr. Moore, and she always gives her
self. I send her name for the Free Press on the
principles of venturing a spirit to catch a salmon -
Waterford you must know is quite famous for its sprats.

I am greatly charmed with George Thompson. He is
a noble fellow. So magnanimous - so simple - so powerful
Garrison is moved to the rock of principle. Thompson
is not. He is impulsive and he may be led or lured
astray - but his heart is good & his emotions are
noble - a thousand fathers he should ever be astray
if he had amongst you in Boston - if he belonged to
Lopez's abhorred "board", where could his like be seen?

I like you too - Henry C. Wright is a marvellous
powerful man - the more I see of him - I have almost
turned my eye into a microscope in my examination
of his character - the better he bears to be known.
Long life to him. He comes here on the 9th or 10th
and spends the rest of his stay with us. We shall
feel lonely when he thinks that the Atlantic rolls
between us.

I sent on all your letters - I Miss Elsworth's letter
the day they came. I also sent her Liberty Bells, & some tracts.

You ask me to write for the Lib. Well now, I wonder
at you. I am sure you know what I can do, and
that I can write either essays or stories, or any thing
but a rambling, scribbled letter that is read and
thrown on one side like a skin of toad water.
I have no profundity - no epigrammatic power. I
can write either prose or verse. When I was
young I put down rhymes together with great
effort, but I have given up trying for I have had the
divine affliction to suspect me. I am greatly hindered
at 42 - shamed by the masses. If you will take me
what I can write I will do it for you know that if
would please any ^{one} woman in American land
I surpass them ^{all} the rest, you are the one. But I
can't I feel very low and stupid when I compare
myself with you Boston housed people. I admire
my inferiority and am content to do so. I will ask
me to bow and protest it, and produce it to the
world.

Did you see "Another Ten Cent Rebellion" (a Heph-
er for refusing to carry Clapps Pipers) in the Christian
Citizen. I am sure that Barrett's feelings towards you
will not be rendered more excited by his party of people
stupid, brutality & hospitality. I wish I was present &
a better enemy. Why should you exhibit your magnanimity
by carrying Bowie knives intended for your own bosom? I can't see

The following Monday we had a talk of open Committee
at one of the rooms of the Corner Church. We sat
from 10 in the morning till 11 at night with about 150
how interesting. It was entirely by interest. The
subject was the League. What it will come to I don't
know. It is easier to form a League than to carry it
on. You must have money & abiding zeal. However
if this effort do no more than what I aim at, it
to bring people together, & make them acquainted with
those who feel with them & for the Am. Cause, I shall
be satisfied. I know good work is done. For at least
has been raised in Bedford by Douglas & others. I
can hear the tables & seats turned on New Bedford.
I think we shall go on slowly at first - but the
ball will I hope roll into an accelerated. Anti
Slavery of the true stamp will be lifted up by degrees.
I fear scarcely all my duplicates of A. S. Literature
to Parker - I would not be surprised if he would ~~print~~
print some of them. Brother Lloyd of New York - Am. Navy is a
Despotism in America - Liberty Bells - Mrs. Childs & Co.
prints. If you can any more stray copies of these books
I think you will make a safe investment ~~some~~
in the long run by lending me a few. I suppose
J. N. Buffum is in glory. As H. C. W. often says.
I want to say that Henry will greatly oblige his
than the undersigned. I send now any of
my contributions for the Standard he would draw his
pen and any they peculiarly absurd and whimsical - for
you know the very wisest might say a silly thing in haste

The last Sunday I spent in London was chiefly passed at
the Norriths with Garrison, Douglass & Maria Waring. They
have a beautiful old house, light room, & elegant, & tastefully
furnished with all the appearance of great competence.
I should think that less than 5000 dollars a year could
not support their style of living. William Chad Knison in
Dublin. I paid him a good deal of attention when he was
here - I had him feasted and carried about by those to
whom I introduced him - for my family were so much
from town & I was keeping baskets home, as I never
(or indeed always) do in summer. The end of it all was
that he expressed himself very warmly in return &
urged me to make his house my home if I went to
London. ^{This I did not do} When I sent my card & Garrison on
arriving in the great city, Mary Norrith sent me a
kind invitation. I put me in a great pinch of
doubt by saying that there was no room the house
more than for me myself. But you wonder my heart
is not turned? But no - it is quite straight, I assure
you. For I know I have attained to this elevation in
his esteem by my cordiality to his husband, whilst Garrison
is only an abolitionist. At any rate we went, & found
her a very charming, unassuming woman. I would have
known that she was an author of great & deserved
celebrity. I was fairly wrapped in Elysium with these
- though rather an awkward unpolished body, I felt
quite at my ease. She was so made comfortable.
Frederick sang one or two of his best songs. Garrison
enlarged on the Constitution & Religion of Uncle Sam,
my sister looked pleased & quiet & serene (for this is a
terrible scrutineer with his eyes) I was in the 7th heaven.